

VAN SLYCK

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

27 March 1953

The Honorable Bolitha J. Laws
Chief Judge
United States District Court
Washington, D. C.

STATINTL

Dear Judge Laws:

[REDACTED] senior member of the Board of National Estimates has been summoned for jury duty in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia on 1 April 1953.

As you may know, the Board of National Estimates is responsible to the Director of Central Intelligence for the preparation of National Intelligence Estimates. These documents in final form represent the best coordinated thinking of the entire national intelligence community, and are prepared at the request of and for use by the President and members of the National Security Council. They constitute the intelligence ingredient to the formulation of top foreign policy.

The Board, as presently constituted, consists of seven regular members and two consultants. Of this total of nine, two and probably three will be leaving service with the Board shortly. The matter of finding their replacements is very difficult and will require time. A fourth member is on a special detail to a National Security Council project which will deprive the Board of his services for another six or eight weeks. A fifth member is abroad and will not return until early in April. The Chairman of the Board must be out of the country during April and May. What this amounts to is that the Board, even without the loss of [REDACTED] services, will be in a relatively weak position from now until early fall, when presumably we will have been able to make appropriate replacements.

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We therefore respectfully request another postponement of jury duty for [REDACTED]. His loss to the Board at this time would add immeasurably to the almost insurmountable difficulties facing the Agency in the fulfillment of the obligations of the Board.

Sincerely yours,

L. K. White
Assistant Deputy Director